

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12
BIB-01 CU-04 HA-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00
/070 W
-----108282 251656Z /45

O R 251415Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3759
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 8380

FOR EUR/RPM AND EUR/SOV FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE: DAILY HIGHLIGHTS, NOVEMBER 24

SUMMARY: CONTRASTING IQAST-WEST VIEWS ON ROLE OF JOURNALISTS
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AND INFORMATION WERE ON DISPLAY IN BASKET THREE. SOVIETS
CONTINUED TO STRESS THAT IT IS PREMATURE FOR FOLLOW-UP
COMMITTEE TO DO MUCH WORK ON MODALITIES FOR EXPERTS GROUPS
OR NEXT BELGRADE-TYPE MEETING. FIRST READING OF CBM NEW
PROPOSALS CONTINUED ROUTINELY WHILE BASKET TWO AGREED
INFORMALLY ON PROCEDURES FOR ITS NEXT STAGE, "PRE-
DRAFTING". END SUMMARY.

1. BASKET ONE (CBMS)--

NORWEGIAN AND U.K. REPS, AS AGREED IN NATO CAUCUS, MADE NONCOMMittal COMMENTS ABOUT SOVIET MANEUVER CEILING PROPOSAL, NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE RATHER DIFFERENT FROM EXISTING CBMS, ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT AREA OF APPLICATION AND TYPE OF "TROOPS" TO BE INCLUDED, AND SAYING THAT IT WOULD REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY. NORWEGIAN ALSO NOTED SIMILARITY OF SOVIET PROPOSAL TO "PROPOSAL PUT FORWARD BY GROUP OF COUNTRIES ELSEWHERE", AND SAID THAT SUCH QUESTIONS AS THE NATURE OF THE COMMITMENT AND THE PROBLEM OF VERIFICATION WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL STUDY. SOVIETS AND POLES CONTINUED TO QUESTION ELEMENTS OF ALLIED AND NEUTRAL NON-ALIGNED (NNA) CBM PROPOSALS. SOVIET REP. HINTED STATES MIGHT LOOK AT MAJOR MOVEMENTS NOTIFICATION AGAIN LATER, IF MEANWHILE BASIS OF EXPERIENCE WAS CREATED THROUGH VOLUNTARY NOTIFICATIONS BY STATES WHICH HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT. CANADIAN REP. CHALLENGED NEED TO PUT OFF CONSIDERATION, NOTING THAT MOVEMENTS ISSUED HAD ALREADY BEEN PUT OFF FOR FURTHER STUDY FOR FIVE YEARS. AUSTRIAN REP. URGED SOVIETS TO INDICATE PART OF NNA PROPOSAL THEY FOUND "INTERESTING" AND IMPLIED SOVIETS COULD FURTHER CONFIDENCE BY NOTIFYING THEIR SEMI-ANNUAL TROOP ROTATION MOVEMENTS.

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2. CANADIAN AND U.S. REPS. QUESTIONED MEANINGFULNESS OF SOVIET-PROPOSED LANGUAGE ABOUT IMPLEMENTING CBMS "CONSISTENTLY". SWEDISH REP. IMPLICITLY CRITIZED SOVIET "SPECIAL JOINT CONSULTATIONS" PROPOSAL NOTING THAT IT SEEMED TO ENVISION DISCUSSION OF ENTIRE GAMUT OF ARMS CONTROL QUESTIONS AND THAT IT WAS UNCLEAR WHETHER FORUM WOULD BE PART OF CSCE OR MEANT REMOVAL OF MILITARY ASPECT FROM CSCE. SWISS REP. DISCREDITED SOVIET DESCRIPTIONS OF TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS AT CARPATHIA EXERCISE BY MAKING DETAILED COMPARISON OF HIS EXPERIENCE AS OBSERVER AT THAT MANEUVER AND TREATMENT OF OBSERVERS AT SWISS MANEUVERS.

3. BASKET TWO--

WORKING GROUP CONTINUED TO DISCUSS PROPOSALS ON ECE (CSCE/BM/19, CSCE/BM/15), NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER (CSCE/BM/58) AND ENVIRONMENT (CSCE/MB/7, CSCE/BM/31). ROMANIAN REP. SAID BELGRADE MEETING'S TASK WAS ONLY TO ALLOCATE CERTAIN SPECIFIC TASKS TO ECE. HE EXPRESSED DISPLEASURE, HOWEVER, AT TENDENCY TO REFER EVERYTHING TO ECE WHERE "DEMOCRATIC" (CONSENSUS) RULES DID NOT APPLY. IN MANY CASES, HE SAID, TASKS

SHOULD BE GIVEN TO EXPERTS GROUPS. ITALIAN AND DUTCH
REPS. WELCOMED IDEAS BEHIND ROMANIAN PROPOSAL ON THE
NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, WITHOUT SUPPORTING
OR ATTACKING THE ACTUAL TERM. NORWAY AND FINLAND
RE-EMPHASIZED INTEREST IN ENVIRONMENT CONFERENCE IN ECE,
BUT STOPPED JUST SHORT OF URGING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS
A SPEEDY DECISION.

4. AN INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN REACHED AMONG ALL
REPS. ON HOW TO PROCEED. BETWEEN NOVEMBER 30 AND
DECEMBER 16, WORKING GROUP WILL AGAIN GO OVER NEW PROPO-
SALS IN ORDER OF FINAL ACT (BUT HOLDING PROPOSALS RE-
LATED TO PREAMBLE UNTIL LAST). WORKING GROUP WILL
CONSIDER ACTUAL LANGUAGE AND NOTE INFORMALLY LANGUAGE
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WHICH IS AGREEABLE TO ALL. FOR TIME-BEING, NO ACTUAL
DRAFTING WILL OCCUR IN THIS "PRE-DRAFTING" STATE.

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5. MEDITERRANEAN-- THERE WERE NO SPEAKERS ON SUBSTANCE.

6. BASKET THREE--

DISCUSSION OF NEW PROPOSALS CONTINUED AT SNAIL'S PACE.
IN FURTHER DISCUSSION OF SWISS PROPOSAL ON INFORMATION
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(CSCE/BM/8), EASTERN REPS. (GDR, BULGARIA, SOVIET UNION) CITED NEED TO INCLUDE JOURNALISTS' CODE OF ETHICS AND RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING IN ANY CONVENTION ON WORKING CONDITIONS. ADDITIONAL RESERVATIONS WERE VOICED ON ACCORDING TRAVELING CORRESPONDENTS SAME RIGHTS AS PERMANENTLY ACCREDITED JOURNALISTS AND ADMISSION OF RFE/RL REPRESENTATIVES TO PROPOSED EXPERTS' MEETING. SWISS REP. REJECTED POSSIBILITY OF ADOPTING CODE WHICH JOURNALISTS THEMSELVES HAD NOT DEVELOPED AND AGREED TO. HE REFUSED EXCLUSION OF ANY MEDIA REPS. FROM EXPERTS' GROUP. IN HARSH INTERVENTION, SOVIET REP. SAID PART OF PROPOSAL VIOLATED FINAL ACT AND CHIDED SWISS FOR FAILING TO IMPLEMENT FINAL ACT PROVISIONS REGARDING JOURNALISTS. IN DISCUSSION OF CZECHOSLOVAK PROPOSAL ON ACTIVITIES OF JOURNALISTS AND MASS MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS (CSCE/BM/39), WESTERN DELS NOTED UNACCEPTABILITY OF QUALIFYING TYPE OF INFORMATION CORRESPONDENTS MAY REPORT. STRESSING FREEDOM OF PRESS AS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT, U.S. AND OTHER DELS, REJECTED NOTION OF IMPOSING STATE CONTROL OVER OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR JOURNALISTS REPORTING.

7. FOLLOW-UP--

NEUTRAL AND NON-ALIGNED DELS (AUSTRIA, SWISS, SWEDEN, YUGOSLAVIA, MALTA) AND ROMANIA DOMINATED DISCUSSION ON NATURE OF NEXT PREPARATORY MEETING, EXPERTS' GROUPS AND PERIODICITY. THEY SAID THAT FULL-SCALE PREPARATORY MEETING COULD BE REPLACED BY SHORT MEETING ONE TO TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO NEXT BELGRADE-TYPE MEETING. MODALITIES FOR LATER SHOULD BE BASED ON YELLOW BOOK PROCEDURES MUTATUS MUTANDIS. THEY ALSO EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF

PERIODICITY OF FOLLOW-UP MEETINGS, CLAIMING IT DOES
NOT IMPLY INSTITUTIONALIZATION, AND RAISED POSSIBILITY
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OF HAVING NEXT BELGRADE-TYPE MEETING AT A HIGHER LEVEL.
SWISS REP. MAINTAINED THAT TIME HAS COME TO BEGIN
PRELIMINARY DRAFTING WORK ON EXPORTS GROUPS AS WELL AS
CONSIDERATION OF PLACE OF NEXT BELGRADE-TYPE MEETING.
SOVIET REP. (KONDRAKOV) SAID IT WAS PREMATURE TO
DECIDE ON TIMING OF PREPARATORY MEETING OR LEVEL OF
NEXT FOLLOW-UP MEETING. HE INDIRECTLY DISPUTED CLAIMS
OF NEUTRAL/NON-ALIGNED DELEGATES ON IMPORTANCE OF EXPERTS
GROUPS BY ASSERTING THAT NEXT BELGRADE-TYPE MEETING
SHOULD NOT BE TRANSFORMED INTO A "MERE" MONITORING"
MEETING" HEARING REPORTS OF VARIOUS FOLLOW-UP
GROUPS. STRESSING THAT FOLLOW-UP WAS NOT RESTRICTED
EXCLUSIVELY TO BELGRADE-TYPE MEETINGS AND EXPERTS GROUPS,
SOVIET REP. CALLED ATTENTION TO OTHER FORMS OF
FOLLOW-UP CURRENTLY BEING DISCUSSED IN OTHER WORKING
BODIES WHICH COULD ALSO ADVANCE CSCE PROCESS,
PARTICULARLY "SPECIAL CONSULTATIONS", CONGRESSES,
SYMPOSIA AND MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS. POLISH REP.
SAID THAT EXPERTS GROUPS SHOULD HAVE CONSULTATIVE, NOT
DECISION-MAKING FUNCTIONS AND SHOULD BE COMPOSED OF
GOVERNMENT SPECIALISTS EXCLUSIVELY. ECHOING SOVIET
VIEW, HE STRESSED THAT DRAFTING WORK COULD BEGIN ON
EXPERTS GROUPS ONLY WHEN RELEVANT WORKING BODIES HAD
ALREADY TAKEN NECESSARY ACTION.
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Message Attributes

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